From: Sent: Jan Sandberg <jfsandberg@comcast.net> Wednesday, March 21, 2012 11:52 AM

To:

'Scott Vreeland' Redistricting2012

Cc: Subject:

RE: Park district hearings

You should probably contact the City Clerk as he has responsibility for proposing the precinct lines. I think that he has a draft set of precincts, not to be finalized until the wards are final. Sooner is better than later as, once adopted, I do not think precinct lines can be changed.

Jan Sandberg 1201 Yale Place #1805 Minneapolis, MN 55403 612-339-2273

----Original Message----

From: Scott Vreeland [mailto:svattheriver@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 11:27 AM

To: Jan Sandberg

Subject: Re: Park district hearings

I have not seen how the precinct maps fit with the park districts. Are there places that would need correcting either now or with a final ward map? The commissioners have supported the draft map and know about some adjustment of the Harrison line.

The city staff said that they were working on the precinct maps and there might be another odd precinct that goes across 35W where that doesn't match Park Districts.

The timing of the official park input process is odd. And probably too late to make changes.

Is there park/precinct overlay that we could see before tonight's board meeting? Thanks,

Scott Vreeland

On Mar 21, 2012, at 9:34 AM, "Jan Sandberg" < <a href="mailto:ifsandberg@comcast.net">ifsandberg@comcast.net</a> wrote:

- > Perhaps I misheard the discussion at the most recent Park Board meeting.
- > Or this issue has already been clarified by Mr. Rice. If so, please
- > disregard this email.

>

- > It is my understanding that, as of last night, the Redistricting Group
- > has no plans to hold hearings on the Park District maps in April. The
- > Charter requires that we send the maps to the MPRB for review, but

```
> there are no
time
> requirements for that review nor is there a hearing requirement. I
mention
> this because it seemed that the discussion at your last meeting
> implied
that
> there would be hearings in April. Perhaps the MPRB plans to hold
> hearings in April, which you certainly can do, but this was unclear to me.
>
> The park district maps were presented at the hearings last night and
> will again be available tonight. There were no questions last night
> about
those
> maps.
> After approval of final ward maps by the Charter Commission, hopefully
March
> 26, the precinct lines will be drawn (there are draft lines available
> now) and everything sent to the City Council, which must act by April
> 3 to approve precinct lines. They have a Council meeting set for March 30.
>
> The Redistricting Group has a few meetings scheduled in April to
> finalize the park district maps. The boundaries may change somewhat
> depending on
the
> final precinct boundaries.
> You can find those meetings on the City Calendar. I don't think there
> is
а
> separate tab for Redistricting--I just look at all events and find the
> meetings of interest. Meetings set as of today are for April 12 (full
> Redistricting Group), April 16 (Operations Committee as needed) and
> April
17
> (full Redistricting Group)--these meetings are subject to change as
needed.
> We also have a tentative date for a special Charter Commission meeting
> on April 25 to approve the final park district maps.
> I have taken the liberty of sending this to the two of you because we
> communicated earlier about the redistricting process.
> Jan Sandberg
> 1201 Yale Place #1805
> Minneapolis, MN 55403
> 612-339-2273
```

>

From: Sent: Matthew Perrault < litning1@prodigy.net> Wednesday, March 21, 2012 3:34 PM

To:

Redistricting2012

Subject:

Fw: 3rd Ward Boundary Lines

#### Dear Redistricting Group:

I live at 100 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue South. I believe that the Downtown area is part of my community. I walk to the Target Field, as well many of the restaurants in the Downtown area. The theater district, the entertainment district, and Block E all affect the quality of my neighborhood.

While I appreciate the hard work the Redistricting Committe has done, I do not agree with splitting the downtown area on 4th street.

To do this would mean areas in the downtown that directly affect each other to be under completely different representation.

The Downtown West area (east of 10th street) has far more in common with those of us living on the river than those that live in Brynne-Maar.

I have created a map that keeps the core of Downtown in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward.

The map also keeps Sheridan and Bottineau in the Northeast, which is what some of the residents in those neighborhoods have requested.

Please consider my map:

http://localdistrictbuilder.drawminnesota.org/districtmapping/plan/663/view/

Thank you for your time

Matthew Perrault

From:

Mike Romens <mike.ritztheater@gmail.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, March 21, 2012 5:48 PM

To:

Redistricting2012

Subject:

Redistricting Northeast Minneapolis

Attachments:

Redistricting letter.doc

March 20, 2012,

#### Dear Redistricting Committee,

Thank you for taking my comments requesting consideration for including the Sheridan and Bottineau Neighborhoods as part of a ward that is inclusive of other Northeast Minneapolis Neighborhoods and not part of downtown.

I feel especially confident that the NE Minneapolis Arts District and the 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue Business Arts and Entertainment Corridor would continue to grow as a vital asset for the City of Minneapolis if whomever represents the area at the city level is able to focus on issues of common concern to this area.

I live and work in the Sheridanneighborhood. In addition, I have been active as President of the Sheridan Neighborhood Organization (SNO), and the primary organizer and booster for the 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue Business Association for many years. As such, I have received feedback from quite a few residents, small business owners, artists and arts presenters such as myself whom consider Broadway Street as the natural border for our ward defining the NE community.

It is important to keep communities of interest together. As the map is shown now, Sheridan is in the same ward as Downtown. Sheridanis not part of the Downtown community. Upon review of the population, it appears that the entire area north of Broadway could be in one ward, with the exception of Mid-City Industrial, could be in one ward and be the correct size. Please consider correcting this.

Sincerely,

Michael Romens

Executive Director, The Ritz Theater Foundation & Ballet of the Dolls, Inc.

345 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE Minneapolis MN 55413 (612) 623-7660

Michael Romens Managing Director Ritz Theater & Ballet of the Dolls 345 13th Avenue Northeast Minneapolis, MN 55413

Office 612-623-7660 Fax 612-623-4523 Box Office 612-423-1129 Dear Redistricting Committee,

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I feel especially confident that the NE Minneapolis Arts District and the 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue Business Arts and Entertainment Corridor would continue to grow as a vital asset for the City of Minneapolis if whomever represents the area at the city level is able to focus on issues of common concern to this area.

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Sincerely,

Michael Romens

Executive Director, The Ritz Theater Foundation & Ballet of the Dolls, Inc.

345 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE Minneapolis MN 55413 (612) 623-7660

Re: My comments regarding the Proposed Redistricting

My name is Verlena Matey-Keke. I live at 4038 Third Avenue South and have lived here since 1970.

I am sending this message to the Redistricting Commission because I feel compelled to express my strong objection to the separating of the 8<sup>th</sup> Ward from that part of the 9th Ward where African American Institutions are located in the Central neighborhood. I have no objections to any other part of the proposed redistricting.

At the public hearing held on Tue. March 20, I couldn't help but wonder if those with decision making authority noted that every African American that spoke, as well as some with other backgrounds, had objections to separating of the two Wards, and yet had no objections to any other part of the proposal.

I call your attention to the literature I picked up at the public hearing last evening, which says in part something about "cracking", in other words, "spreading minorities among so many districts that their voting power is diluted". It also says "it doesn't matter whether the effects are intentional or not". I ask that you consider those principles as you do a final draft of the redistricting map.

I see our city with the widest school achievement gap, the highest unemployment rate, the highest rate of incarnation for African Americans in the country, and I can tell you that part of the reason is the accumulative disingenuous acts that have produced the afore mentioned results.

From:

Roger Worm <rogerworm@yahoo.com>

Sent:

Thursday, March 22, 2012 11:10 AM

To:

Redistricting2012

Subject:

Recap of testimony given at March 21st hearing

Attachments:

Roger Worm -EHFN Proposal as presented in Public Hearing March 21.xlsx

Please see attached spreadsheet for proposal to keep East Harriet Farmstead Neighborhood (EHFN) South of 42nd Street in Ward 13 per reasons presented at hearing.

Neighborhood is lake focused.

Common interests with Lynnhurst, Fulton and Linden Hills Neighborhoods.

Businesses on both sides of 46th at Bryant Avenue have common interests.

East Harriet Farmstead Neighborhood Association has cultivated relationships with neighborhood groups and residents in Ward 13 over the past 10 years because of the shared priorities and issues facing us as a community of interest.

The best example of the strong ties around Lake Harriet is our signature winter event, Kitefest, that is sponsored by East Harriet, Lynnhurst and Linden Hills Neighborhoods along with the Park Board. Numerous efforts have been made with neighborhood groups in Ward 8, these proposed partnerships have not come to fruition as the shared interests are not as strong.

# Synopsis:

Option I. Move EHFN south of 42nd Street into Ward 13 from Ward 8
Move West Calhoun into Ward 7 from Ward 13.
Move West side of Ericsson Neighborhood west of Hiawatha Golf Course into Ward 8.

Option II. Move EHFN south of 42nd Street into Ward 13 from Ward 8

Move West side of Ericsson Neighborhood west of Hiawatha Golf Course into Ward 8

Both options keep each affected ward below 5% variation from the ideal.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Roger Worm 712 West 40th Street Minneapolis, MN 55409 612-743-0616 rogerworm@yahoo.com

East Harriet Farmstead Neighborhood Resident Presently in Ward 10

March 15 Proposed Ward Statistics

Wards	Ideal Value	Population	Deviation	% Deviation
1	29,429	29,504	75	0.25%
2	29,429	29,201	-228	-0.77%
3	29,429	28,924	-505	-1.72%
4	29,429	30,249	820	2.79%
5	29,429	30,725	1,296	4.40%
6	29,429	28,810	-619	-2.10%
7	29,429	28,416	-1,013	-3.44%
8	29,429	29,233	-196	-0.67%
9	29,429	29,750	321	1.09%
10	29,429	30,071	642	2.18%
11	29,429	28,056	-1,373	-4.67%
12	29,429	30,231	802	2.73%
13	29,429	29,408	-21	-0.07%
	-	382,578		

#### Option I:

Move: West Calhoun Into Ward 7

East Harriet South of 42nd into Ward 13

West side of Ericsson Neighborhood into Ward 8 - approximately 400+ residents 1 29,429 29,504 75 0.25% 2 29,429 29,201 -228 -0.77% 3 29,429 28,924 -505 -1.72% 4 29,429 30,249 820 2.79% 5 29,429 30,725 1,296 4.40% 6 29,429 28,810 -619 -2.10% 7 29,429 30,156 727 2.47% 29,429 28,157 -1,272 -4.32% 9 29,429 1.09% 29,750 321 10 29,429 30,071 642 2.18% 11 29,429 28,056 -1,373 -4.67% 29,831 12 29,429 402 1.37%

> 29,144 382,578

-285

-0.97%

#### Option II:

Move: East Harriet South of 42nd into Ward 13

13

West side of Ericsson Neighborhood into Ward 8 - approximately 400+ residents

29,429

1	29,429	29,504	75	0.25%
2	29,429	29,201	-228	-0.77%
3	29,429	28,924	-505	-1.72%
4	29,429	30,249	820	2.79%
5	29,429	30,725	1,296	4.40%
6	29,429	28,810	-619	-2.10%
7	29,429	28,416	-1,013	-3.44%
8	29,429	28,157	-1,272	-4.32%
9	29,429	29,750	321	1.09%
10	29,429	30,071	642	2.18%
11	29,429	28,056	-1,373	-4.67%
12	29,429	29,831	402	1.37%
13	29,429	30,884	1,455	4.94%
	***************************************	382,578		

From: Sent:

jovis francisco <jovis4525@gmail.com>

To:

Thursday, March 22, 2012 12:08 PM

Subject:

Redistricting2012 I support we all win

my name is Jovita I'm a resident of minneapolis for 16th years, I have two kids at Christo rey, Witter, Aurora schools, I work in phillips area, my shoping area is mercado central, gloval marquet and many latino store that is building by latino population, I used program at anderson school, La conexion latina, clues, centro cultural, waite house program etc. I am supporting the We All Win map because is a map that is not dividing us as latino population community, native community and somali comunity, it is inportant to reconized that 3 commuity and this map is for the oportunity together, i am asking you to put midtown phillis in ward 9, with phillips, Central, powderhorn and corcora, it is important no change the identity of our latino I am totally support "WE ALL WIN MAP".

sinceraly Jovita Francisco

From:

diana boegemann < dianaruthboegemann@gmail.com>

Sent:

Thursday, March 22, 2012 12:58 PM

To:

Redistricting2012

Cc:

CARAG Board; Scott Engel

Subject:

Ward 10 Boundary change request from the CARAG Neighborhood

March 20, 2012

Dear Redistricting Group members,

The CARAG Neighborhood Association discussed the proposed Ward 10 boundary changes at the March 20, 2012 Monthly Meeting and voted to ask the redistricting group to return to the March 15 Operations Committee working version of the map showing the CARAG neighborhood (bordered by Hennepin and Lyndale Avenues and Lake and 36th Streets) entirely within Ward 10. CARAG is strongly in support of this outcome.

The version of the map proposed for this week's public hearings, divides CARAG in two along Bryant Avenue. This configuration would exclude Bryant Square Park (CARAG's only public space and the center of our neighborhood events and meetings,) the east side of Bryant Avenue, all of Aldrich Avenue and the west side of Lyndale Avenue from Ward 10. CARAG is strongly opposed to this outcome

CARAG would like to remain within one ward for efficiency and effectiveness and identity. Our current City Council member, as those who served before her, regularly comes to CARAG monthly neighborhood meetings to both solicit input on issues and concerns and to inform us of important city issues. We believe our representation would be significantly less effective for the part of our neighborhood west of Lyndale that would be served by a council member who may not identify west of Lyndale as her/his territory.

Therefore, as a <u>Community of Interest</u>, the CARAG Neighborhood asks that you return to the plan with CARAG entirely within Ward 10.
Thank you for your consideration,
Diana Boegemann
CARAG Neighborhood Association Board, pres.

From:

Jennifer Godinez <jgodinez@mmep.org> Thursday, March 22, 2012 1:01 PM

Sent:

To: Subject: Redistricting2012

Comment Regarding Minneapolis Redistricting 2012 WeAllWin.Support.pdf

Attachments:

Importance:

High

Please consider this letter in support of the "We All Win" map proposal.

Thank you,

Jennifer Godinez, Leader with more than 13 years of nonprofit and community involvement in South Minneapolis

# REDISTRICTING: A PROCESS THAT SHOULD FULFILL MINNEAPOLIS' PROMISE OF A MORE INCLUSIVE DEMOCRACY

March 22, 2012

Minneapolis Redistricting Members

To the Minneapolis Redistricting 2012 Members:

My name is Jennifer Godinez and I am the Associate Director of the Minnesota Minority Education Partnership. For over ten years, I have been very active in establishing several key nonprofit organizations such as the Latino Economic Development Center (LEDC), El Colegio Charter School, La Escuelita youth-serving agency, and the Latino Scholarship Fund (LSF) of Minnesota.

LEDC, specifically, is located in the Midtown-Philips area-an area that will be deeply affected by your decisions through this redistricting process. I am proud to have been a part of the founding board of LEDC and to see the results from this hard work in the form of a vibrant Latino and immigrant business corridor, development of new jobs for everyone in the community, and newly renovated Sears building — the Global Market, that welcomes all communities and cultures as well. As Minnesota's demographics shifts, it is critical that we showcase and recognize this amazing example of demography and prosperity and a reflection of our state's value and commitment to inclusiveness, equity, and prosperity. I believe that LEDC is just the start of the talents that the Latino community members, families and youth, have to contribute to the Minneapolis and Minnesota community as a whole.

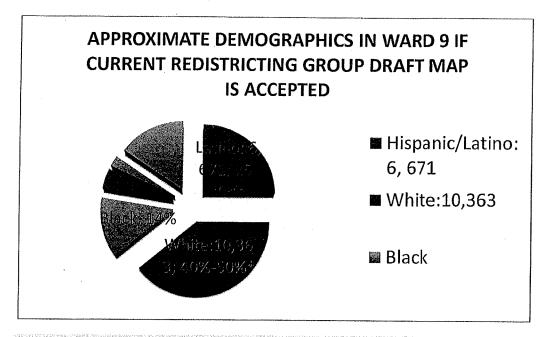
# CONCERN 1: YOUR MAP BREAKS THE PRINCPLE AROUND CONSIDERING CULTURAL AND ETHNIC INTERESTS COMMON TO A POPULATION IN AN AREA:

I am writing because I am deeply concerned that the current map being proposed breaks one of the key principles behind redrawing redistricting lines, to take into consideration "Social, cultural, racial, ethnic, and economic interests common to the population of the area, which are probable subjects of legislation." I believe that that principle is broken by considering the map currently presented at the March 20, 2012 Redistricting Hearing. According to census data presented at MNCompass.org, Latinos make up 10% of the Minneapolis Population, but a remarkable 40% of Midtown-Phillips. This means that efforts should be taken by this process to reflect that the cultural and ethnic interests are not diluted by this process. Which, as evidence of the cultural corridor presents, would most definitely occur with the current map proposal being considered.

#### CONCERN 2: YOUR MAP POTENTIALLY VIOLATES THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT:

Another concern about this map is violation of section 2 of the Voting Rights Act: Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act prohibits district lines that deny minority voters an equal opportunity "to participate in the political process and to elect representatives of their choice." Essentially, district lines can't be drawn to dilute minority voters' voting power if: — A minority community can fit reasonably in a geographically

compact district — Voting-age minorities would represent a majority of the voters in that district. The map the Commission is considering, would egregiously break the protocol your group has set to fulfill for this process. (<a href="http://www.drawminnesota.org/redistricting101/criteria/">http://www.drawminnesota.org/redistricting101/criteria/</a>). Fundamentally, it would dilute the Latino political voting power.

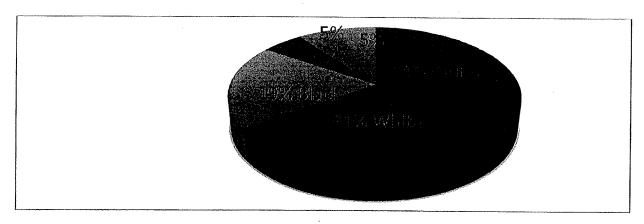


#### I SUPPORT THE "WE ALL WIN" MAP:

For the reasons above, I support the "We All Win" map that has been presented to the Commission. Latinos would have a plurality in the "We All Win" proposal and minorities constitute a large majority in Ward 9. Map

at: http://localdistrictbuilder.drawminnesota.org/districtmapping/plan/582/view/ See graph A. below:

Graph 1: WARD 9: We All Win Proposal:



I urge the commission to consider the "We All Win" map (attached) proposal which aims to:

- 1. *Keep in Ward 9 the strong ethnic business corridor* that includes the Midtown Global Market, Latino and immigrant businesses, together with Native American and emerging African businesses and community organizations. Essentially, *not diluting* a strong, specific ethnic, cultural community interest of Minneapolis.
- 2. **Honor the Voting Rights Act** and give Latin Americans, African Americans, First Nations and other Ward 9 minorities the *ability* to elect a city councilperson who understands the needs and interests of this unique community.
- 3. **Provide the opportunity to increase minority representation on the City Council**, which currently does not have a proper representation of people of color represented for their unique community issues.

Excluding Midtown-Phillips from Ward 9 would be a devastating loss for the Latino community, for the multiethnic neighborhoods of Ward 9, and for the wider public. Thank you for considering this comment in the Redistricting 2012 process.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Godinez

Jennifer.godinez70@gmail.com

From:

Art Serotoff <aserotoff@comcast.net>

Sent:

Thursday, March 22, 2012 1:29 PM

To:

Redistricting2012; steven.washington@co.hennepin.mn.us

Cc:

MARY MERRILL ANDERSON; mcmooregh@comcast.net; 'Mariano Espinoza';

tippingpointstrategies@gmail.com

Subject:

Proposed Map Focusing on South Minneapolis

Hi Redistricting Committee-

Please accept the FAIR Group's map that can be accessed through the link below:

http://localdistrictbuilder.drawminnesota.org/districtmapping/plan/673/view/

This map represents the work of a coalition of African American, White and Latino neighbors who live in the Central, Regina, Phillips, Bryant, Field and Powderhorn Neighborhoods. We focused on, what we believe is a more equitable set of boundaries for wards 8, 9 and 6. Once we established these, we allowed for fine tuning in other wards.

We intended to preserve the sense of cultural, emotional, political and economic community associated with the 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue corridor from Lake street south in the 8<sup>th</sup> ward, the Franklin Avenue corridor in the 6<sup>th</sup> ward and the Lake street corridor in the 9<sup>th</sup> ward. We attempted to balance Latino, African American, Native and East African stakeholders in each of the three proposed wards upon which we focused.

Compared to the March 20 public hearing map, we changed the following regarding wards 6, 8 and 9 (this is my best description given very limited time to get this to you. I hope I haven't missed anything):

Ward 6 – Added Whittier

Removed all of Seward except NW sliver

Ward 9 – Removed Central except for a slice extending east down Park Ave.

Extended North Boundary to Franklin Ave from Park to Hiawatha

Added Bancroft

Ward 8 – Shifted lines to include all of Lyndale without Carag

Included Central up to Park Ave as the Eastern Boundary

Removed East Harriet

Included all of Kingfield, Bryant and Regina

Removed Bancroft

Removed the northern piece of Northrop

Added Field

Mike Dean of Common Cause has these files if you need back up.

Thank you for your consideration.

Art Serotoff

Administrative Services That Tell Your Story

- Grant Writing and Reporting
- Evaluation and Participant Tracking

- Organizational Development
- Project Management

# 651-492-7070 <u>aserotoff@comcast.net</u>

"We can't undo history but, if we're in the present, in our time, we're going to influence the future."

Maya Angelou

From	:

Dr. Happy <hellodrhappy@yahoo.com> Thursday, March 22, 2012 3:59 PM

Sent: To:

Redistricting2012

Subject:

Ward 6 resident thoughts on redistricting

Happy Reynolds 1916 15th ave S MPLS, 55404

I attended last nights meeting and spoke but I also wanted to follow up my comments as I was emotional at the time and I am not sure I was clear.

I live in ward six, I am not sure why the current plan is changing our boundaries at the expense of 2 neighborhoods (Seward and Elliot Park) I would ask that you redraw the lines to include all of both these wonderful neighborhoods. I would also think Ceder Riverside would be better served whole in ward 2. (or whole with us)

I have read several articles that seem to imply the redistricting of our ward to to give Somali Americans a better chance at representation. If this is the intent, I think it is wrong. Why would anyone assume a Somali can only get elected if there is a Somali heavy population? This kind of thinking divides us as a neighborhood, a community and as Minnesotans. It creates division and actually undermines democracy, it does not allow us to learn to live and work together. Because it states we can't unless we draw a line. It is wrong.

I live in the only district that has and openly gay person of color on City Council, is it really a stretch to believe if there is an excellent Somali candidate for Ward 6 we won't vote for him or her? Why is there an assumption on the part of The council and Somalis that I and my non-Somali neighbors would not want the same things? This is prejudiced thinking if it going on. Please do not bow to it. Please don't sell us short.

Keep the neighborhoods whole, give all of us the chance to grow, live and work together as a diverse group. It allows us to meet the needs of us all in Ward 6 Native Americans, Hispanics, African Americans, Somali Americans, Asian, Caucasian- we are all here. Whole neighborhoods give us the power to work as a group to succeed.

Sincerely, Happy Reynolds	
Happy Reynolds MD	

From:

mariano espinoza <mariano.espinoza@gmail.com>

Sent:

Thursday, March 22, 2012 4:56 PM

To:

Art Serotoff

Cc:

mcmooregh@comcast.net; Redistricting2012; MARY MERRILL ANDERSON; tippingpointstrategies@gmail.com; steven.washington@co.hennepin.mn.us

Subject:

Re: Proposed Map Focusing on South Minneapolis

Dear all, As i said yesterday i need to check with the latino leaders in order to have an agreement. They did not agree to the proposal because it will dilute the percentaje of latino population

On Mar 22, 2012 1:29 PM, "Art Serotoff" < aserotoff@comcast.net > wrote:

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Art Serotoff

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- Evaluation and Participant Tracking
- Organizational Development
- Project Management

651-492-7070

aserotoff@comcast.net

<sup>&</sup>quot;We can't undo history but, if we're in the present, in our time, we're going to influence the future." -- Maya Angelou

From:

Goodrich, John T. <JGoodrich@minneapolisparks.org>

Sent:

Thursday, March 22, 2012 5:25 PM

To:

barry.clegg@gpmlaw.com

Cc:

Menshek, Peggy Y; Erwin, John; Young, Annie; Bourn, Brad; Fine, Bob; Kummer, Carol;

Olson, Jon; Tabb, Anita; Vreeland, Scott; Wielinski, Liz; Miller, Jayne S.; 'Brian Rice'

Subject:

MPRB Redistricting letter

Attachments:

032212ParkBoardBoundaries.pdf

Mr. Barry Clegg, Chair

Attached you will find a letter sent on behalf of John Erwin, President of the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board.

John Goodrich
Executive Assistant/Office of the Superintendent
Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board
2117 West River Rd. N.
Minneapolis, MN 55411
612-230-6404 (office)
www.minneapolisparks.org

Writers Direct No.: 612-676-2303 Email: brice@ricemichels.com

March 22, 2012

Via Email

Mr. Barry Clegg, Chair Minneapolis Redistricting Commission 163 East Island Avenue Minneapolis, MN 55401

**RE: Park Board Boundaries** 

Dear Mr. Clegg:

This letter is to advise you that the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board has reviewed the draft Park Board Redistricting Plan at several meetings this year.

The Park Board has directed me to advise you as follows: First, the Board is in general agreement with the Plan the Redistricting Commission has with respect to Park Commission district lines. Second, the Park Board believes that the boundary lines between districts 3, 5, and 6 should be Interstate 35W. In other words, the dividing line for Districts 3, 5, and 6 should be I-35W. Third, consistent with the preceding principle, I-35W should remain as a boundary even if it is necessary to create a small precinct on either side of the freeway.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

John Erwin, President

cc: Park Board Commissioners
Superintendent Jayne Miller
Brian Rice, Legal Counsel
Peggy Menshek, Charter Commission Secretary

From:

diana boegemann < dianaruthboegemann@gmail.com>

Sent:

Thursday, March 22, 2012 6:20 PM

To:

Redistricting2012

Subject:

Re: Ward 10 Boundary change request from the CARAG Neighborhood

I neglected to include my address in with the CARAG letter

Diana Boegemann

CARAG Office (612)823-2520

3317 Aldrich Ave. so

Calhoun Area Residents Action Group

Minneapolis, MN 55408

3612 Bryant Avenue S. (Lower Level of the

(612)822-2776

Senior Center)

Minneapolis, MN 55409

On Thu, Mar 22, 2012 at 12:57 PM, diana boegemann < dianaruthboegemann@gmail.com > wrote:

March 20, 2012

Dear Redistricting Group members,

The CARAG Neighborhood Association discussed the proposed Ward 10 boundary changes at the March 20, 2012 Monthly Meeting and voted to <u>ask the redistricting group to return to the March 15 Operations Committee working version of the map</u> showing the CARAG neighborhood (bordered by Hennepin and Lyndale Avenues and Lake and 36th Streets) entirely within Ward 10. CARAG is strongly in support of this outcome.

The version of the map proposed for this week's public hearings, divides CARAG in two along Bryant Avenue. This configuration would exclude Bryant Square Park (CARAG's only public space and the center of our neighborhood events and meetings,) the east side of Bryant Avenue, all of Aldrich Avenue and the west side of Lyndale Avenue from Ward 10. CARAG is strongly opposed to this outcome

CARAG would like to remain within one ward for efficiency and effectiveness and identity. Our current City Council member, as those who served before her, regularly comes to CARAG monthly neighborhood meetings to both solicit input on issues and concerns and to inform us of important city issues. We believe our representation would be significantly less effective for the part of our neighborhood west of Lyndale that would be served by a council member who may not identify west of Lyndale as her/his territory.

Therefore, as a <u>Community of Interest</u>, the CARAG Neighborhood asks that you return to the plan with CARAG entirely within Ward 10.

Thank you for your consideration,

Diana Boegemann

CARAG Neighborhood Association Board, pres.

3317 Aldrich AveSo

From:

Sen.Patricia Torres Ray <patricia@senate.mn>

Sent:

Thursday, March 22, 2012 7:04 PM

To: Cc: Redistricting2012

---

smarieday@aol.com; mariano.espinoza@gmail.com;

marlene@immigrantfreedomnetwork.org; Cano, Alondra; jgodinez@mmep.org

Subject: Attachments: Presence of Latino and American Indian Communities in Redistricting Presence of Latino and American Indian Communities in Redistricting.pdf

Please see attached message.

Senator Patricia Torres Ray Minnesota District 62 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. State Office Building, Rm 131 St. Paul, MN 55155-1606 (651) 296-4274 www.senate.mn/senatortorresray

"The test of progress is not whether we add to the abundance of those who have much, it is whether we provide enough to those who have little" -Franklin Delano Roosevelt

#### SENATOR PATRICIA TORRES RAY

100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. 131 State Office Building

St. Paul, MN 55155-1606 Office: (651) 296-4274

E-Mail: sen.patricia.torres.ray@senate.mn



Senate
State of Minnesota

March 22, 2012 Minneapolis Charter Commission **To: Minneapolis Redistricting Committee** 

Dear Committee Members,

This letter is a response to the Committee's proposed ward re-districting process which soon could change the current political boundary structure of the City of Minneapolis.

I have received numerous calls and email messages from Minneapolis residents urging me to contact you to oppose a proposed plan that will maintain the status quo.

Residents are asking me to urge the Committee to fully recognize the presence of the Latino and American Indian communities in the redistricting process by closely considering the adoption of the "We All Win" boundary map for Ward 6 and Ward 9, which will keep neighborhoods heavily populated by Latino and American Indian residents intact.

Latinos, American Indian and other communities of color have a significant presence in Minneapolis and have contributed in large proportion to the economic vitality of key corridors in the City. I encourage you to fully recognize their presence as communities of interest and take every measure to protect their integrity as you move forward with the new proposed boundaries. The legislative session has prevented me from fully engaging in this dialogue, but I'm confident that you share my passion for political engagement, and that together we'll find meaningful ways to fully engage every citizen in this important process.

I urge the members of the Committee to listen to the concerns of members of these communities and to grant them every opportunity to fully engage in this process.

Sincerely,

Patricia Torres Ray Minnesota State Senator

Latriin Y Lay

From:

Marque Jensen <marque@immigrantfreedomnetwork.org>

Sent:

Thursday, March 22, 2012 7:16 PM

To:

Redistricting2012

Subject:

Ward 6 / 9 / 2 Balancing neighborhood and ethnic concerns!

Thanks for the graciousness you have shown in the public hearing process. I apologize for not getting this to you sooner - however I have some suggestions I would like to make.

I believe ward 9 should encompass almost ALL of Midtown Phillips, however we have discussed a plan with the east African community that would give ward 6 everything west of 11th (one block off Chicago from 24-28th and then over to 13th to Lake Street) this would give areas of influence to 6 but leave most of the population of Midtown with ward 9.

I also support the concerns of Steward neighborhoods to have more of their neighborhood unified, thus 6 could extend east of Hiawatha on 24th Street only to 25th Ave then north to I94w and east to the river. The University Zone should be divided between 6 and 2 sharing the power and influence of this significant zone.

Ward 8 should have Central Neighborhood as far north as 35 or 36th street, which is a natural divider and where the Latino community gives way to the traditional African American Neighborhood. As a result of the above changes ward 9 should not need to jog into Longfellow at all.

I hope these thoughts make good sense.

thanks

Marque Jensen, Executive Director marque@immigrantfreedomnetwork.org

612.990.5435

Minnesota Immigrant Freedom Network 1516 East Lake Street, Suite 202 Minneapolis, MN 55407

From:

valerie crawford <valerie.crawford19@gmail.com>

Sent:

Friday, March 23, 2012 12:13 AM

To:

Redistricting2012

Subject:

City Redistricting of 8th Ward

My name is Valerie Crawford I grew up in the neighborhood on the 4700 block of Clinton Avenue South in the 1970's. I attended St. Joan of Arc, when they had a school, Field Elementary School and Washburn High School. I currently live at 368 East 44th Street in Minneapolis.

I have seen a lot of changes in this neighborhood some good and some bad. However, the current proposed redistricting map for the March 20-21, 2012 public hearing is unacceptable. It will not serve the best interest of the residents of South Minneapolis or the City as a whole. The current 8th Ward is a real neighborhood that is connected to each other. The 8th ward is a community of interest and it shares common interests and ethnic heritage. Our communities are socially, politically, racially, ethnically and economically diverse, which makes our neighborhood a great place to live.

Who does the redistricting serve by cutting our neighborhood up into little sections, not the people living in these communities, putting the ward boundary along 38th street, will make development on this artery more difficult. It will be one more division in a community that has been repeatedly divided over the years by; the freeway 35W, loss of schools; Warrington, Bryant, Central and the loss of the African American business hub at 4th avenue and 38th street. It will separate the remaining institutions including Sabathini, The Spokesman Recorder, Urban League and Field School.

I want the current 8th Ward to stay together, at a minimum the core African American community in the Central, Bryant, Regina and Field neighborhoods must be preserved in one ward. At lot of times politics is just that "politics", decisions have been made behind closed doors and then thrust into the public to give them the impression they had say so in making changes to their communities, when the decisions have already been made in advance. I want my voice to be heard, I want the City Redistricting committee to know my neighborhood is one worth preserving and the City Redistricting committee should seriously leave the 8th Ward intact.

-Valerie Crawford 612-824-9391

From:

Barry Clegg <barry@bfclegg.com>

Sent:

Friday, March 23, 2012 9:10 AM

To: Cc: cherril burney Redistricting2012

Subject:

Re: Fair action

Thank you for your comment. I have forwarded to the entire group.

Barry Clegg

From: cherril burney < <a href="mailto:cherrilburney@hotmail.com">cherrilburney@hotmail.com</a>>

To: barry@bfclegg.com; jaybadheartbull@me.com; cohendan1@msn.com; colex044@comcast.net

Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2012 9:42 AM

Subject: Fair action

My name is Cherril Burney i live at 3709 5th avenu south.

i am a member of Fair action in redistricting.

- 1. the current proposed redistricting map for the 20-21 public hearing is un acceptable. it will not serve the best intrests of the residents of south Minneapolis.
- 2. the current 8th Ward is made up by real nieghborhoods that have people who are connected to each other. our communities are connected socially, politically, and economically we are racially, ethnically and economically diverse.

Please keep that 8th warden together.

From:

McDonald, Christine M.

Sent:

Friday, March 23, 2012 9:45 AM

To:

Redistricting2012

Subject:

Metropolitan Urban Indian Directors - Redistricting Input

Attachments:

DOC032312.pdf

Hello!

Attached is a resolution from the Metropolitan Urban Indian Directors stating support for the We All Will map.

Christine McDonald American Indian Community Specialist Neighborhood and Community Relations Department City of Minneapolis

Office: 612-673-3954 Cell: 612-849-2386

# RESOLUTION OF THE

# METROPOLITAN URBAN INDIAN DIRECTORS

Whereas, the United States conducts a census of its residents every 10 years; and

Whereas, the U.S. Constitution requires redrawing Congressional and state legislative district boundaries every 10 years to reflect population shifts identified in Federal census data; and

Whereas, the Minneapolis Charter requires redrawing Minneapolis City wards and Park and Recreation districts every year ending in '2' using the most recent census data; and

Whereas, the federal Voting Rights Act requires that racial and language minorities have a fair opportunity to elect representatives of their choice; and

Whereas, we believe the proposed ward brought forth by the Redistricting Committee packs minority communities and threatens the opportunity to elect a representative of choice; and

Whereas, the American Indian community has historically been undercounted and underrepresented there is a great need to ensure the aforementioned opportunity exists;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved:

That the Metropolitan Urban Indian Directors hereby states publicly it's support for **WeAllWin** ward map for Redistricting 2012 for ensuring fair representation across all wards.

Meya Modrien MUIO Vier Chair 3/22/2012

From:

karia@bitstream.net

Sent:

Friday, March 23, 2012 11:08 AM

To: Cc: Redistricting2012

Subject:

larry@hnampls.org Keep Harrison Whole!

I am writing to request that you keep Harrison Neighborhood whole in the next redistricting map. Dividing our neighborhood politically will harm the effective organizing and community capacity building we have achieved to date.

In addition, it makes most sense to keep Harrison in Ward 5. Our issues and corresponding community partnerships have been aligned in this ward. Moreover, elected representatives in Ward 7 have repeatedly and blatantly refused to meet with us to discuss issues in our neighborhood that cross political and geographic lines. Given that we have been so expressly ignored to date, I believe this would continue in one form or another after redistricting and we would not have equal representation.

Thanks for your time and attention to keeping Harrison Neighborhood and all the work bridging community that we have done intact. Please contact me if you have further questions.

Best regards,

Kari Anderson Harrison Neighbor

From: Sent:

Hiscock, Larry <a href="mailto:larry@hnampls.org">larry@hnampls.org</a> Friday, March 23, 2012 11:14 AM

To:

Hiscock, Larry; 'barry@bfclegg.com'; 'jaybadheartbull@me.com'; 'cohendan1@msn.com'; 'colex044@comcast.net'; 'corbinconnell@gmail.com'; 'xmargedolan@comcast.net'; 'todd.ferrara@standardheating.com'; 'jbgarcia3@aol.com'; 'djheinle@cmarch.com';

'invisionit@msn.com'; 'kozaknsa@mm.com'; 'barrylaz@gmail.com'; 'blickness@yahoo.com'; 'jkmassey@earthlink.net'; 'singdancesavetheworld@gmail.com'; 'jahp2691@yahoo.com';

'srichardson7@comcast.net'; 'arubenstein@schaeferlaw.com';

'jfschartercomm@comcast.net'; 'gthaden@gmail.com'; 'adosh.unni@gmail.com';

Redistricting2012

Subject:

FW: Keep Harrison Whole!

See comment below.

Larry Hiscock
Director/Lead Organizer
612-374-4849

I GoodSearch and GoodShop for the Harrison Neighborhood Association.

Raise money for Harrison Neighborhood Association just by searching the Internet with GoodSearch.com (powered by Yahoo), or shopping online with GoodShop.com. Simply go to http://www.goodsearch.com/toolbar/harrison-neighborhood-association-hna and add us to your toolbar.

----Original Message----

From: karia@bitstream.net [mailto:karia@bitstream.net]

Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 11:08 AM
To: Redistricting2012@minneapolismn.gov

Cc: Hiscock, Larry

Subject: Keep Harrison Whole!

I am writing to request that you keep Harrison Neighborhood whole in the next redistricting map. Dividing our neighborhood politically will harm the effective organizing and community capacity building we have achieved to date.

In addition, it makes most sense to keep Harrison in Ward 5. Our issues and corresponding community partnerships have been aligned in this ward. Moreover, elected representatives in Ward 7 have repeatedly and blatantly refused to meet with us to discuss issues in our neighborhood that cross political and geographic lines. Given that we have been so expressly ignored to date, I believe this would continue in one form or another after redistricting and we would not have equal representation.

Thanks for your time and attention to keeping Harrison Neighborhood and all the work bridging community that we have done intact. Please

contact me if you have further questions.

Best regards,

Kari Anderson Harrison Neighbor

From:

Andrea Rubenstein <ARubenstein@schaeferlaw.com>

Sent:

Friday, March 23, 2012 12:02 PM

To:

Menshek, Peggy Y

Subject:

FW: Moving Forward From Yesterday's Redistricting Meeting

For the group.

**From:** Art Serotoff [mailto:aserotoff@comcast.net]

Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 11:43 AM

To: Andrea Rubenstein

Subject: Moving Forward From Yesterday's Redistricting Meeting

Hi Andrea-

It was wonderful to see you yesterday. Your presence gives me confidence that there are people on the Redistricting Group with an understanding of community. Thank you for your positive comments about ward 8 and your support of the changes that were made yesterday.

I am a member of FAIR and am writing to point out 3 things that are important to me and members of FAIR:

- 1. First, and most importantly, please continue to support, and hold steadfast, on the boundaries for the 8<sup>th</sup> ward that were agreed to at yesterday's meeting. These include adding Field and extending the northern boundary to 36<sup>th</sup> street.
- 2. If it is possible, our group advocates including most of Central in the 8<sup>th</sup> ward. We recognize that this would mean changes in adjacent wards as well. We developed a map that was submitted yesterday, electronically, and was handed to the committee chair at the meeting at UROC on Wed. night. The link is below:

http://localdistrictbuilder.drawminnesota.org/districtmapping/plan/673/view/

This solution places most of Central into ward 8 and removes Bancroft and Northrup to balance population numbers.

This solution also places most of Midtown Phillips in Ward 9 to maintain the Latino population focus of that Ward.

3. Finally, we support making Seward whole. This is also part of the FAIR map on the attached link.

Andrea, FAIR understands and remembers the value of coalitions in moving our neighborhood forward. In the 1940's, Jewish developer Ken Tilsen built houses in our community and despite covenants of agreement and political pressure, he sold these to African Americans. This action helped create a vibrant African American community in Ward 8. This community then built further coalitions that produced great leaders for our city including mayor Sayles-Belton, and now, State Senator Jeff Hayden. We would like to see the 8<sup>th</sup> Ward maintain that tradition of leadership.

With your help, we can do this.

Thank you.

Art Serotoff
Administrative Services That Tell Your Story

- Grant Writing and Reporting
- Evaluation and Participant Tracking
- Organizational Development
- Project Management

4524 Columbus Avenue South Minneapolis, Minnesota 55407 651-492-7070 <u>aserotoff@comcast.net</u>

"We can't undo history but, if we're in the present, in our time, we're going to influence the future." ——Maya Angelou

From: Sent:

Hiscock, Larry < larry@hnampls.org> Friday, March 23, 2012 12:16 PM

To:

Hiscock, Larry; 'barry@bfclegg.com'; 'jaybadheartbull@me.com'; 'cohendan1@msn.com';

'colex044@comcast.net'; 'corbinconnell@gmail.com'; 'xmargedolan@comcast.net'; 'todd.ferrara@standardheating.com'; 'jbgarcia3@aol.com'; 'djheinle@cmarch.com';

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'srichardson7@comcast.net'; 'arubenstein@schaeferlaw.com';

'jfschartercomm@comcast.net'; 'gthaden@gmail.com'; 'adosh.unni@gmail.com';

Redistricting2012

Subject:

Protect Ward 5 - Harrison Comment 3.23.12

Attachments:

Harrison Comment Protect Ward 5 3.23.12!.pdf; Minneapolis 1935.pdf; 1935 Map.pdf

Importance:

High

March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012

c/o City Clerks Office Room 304 City Hall 350 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street Minneapolis, MN 55415

#### Redistricting Group Members:

The Harrison Neighborhood Association is committed to promoting racial and economic equity. The Twin Cities has some of the most entrenched racial and economic disparities in the country. These disparities have been concentrated in areas by a long history of discriminatory planning and disinvestment. The Redistricting Group should take special care to promote political enfranchisement of racial minorities and low-income people.

There will be no equity until there is fair and just representation for people of color and low-income communities. The recent modification to the Southern Boundary of the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward, moving from legislative district line to neighborhood line, is a step backwards for fair and just representation. It also puts the Redistricting Group on record supporting an unjust dynamic in which the City of Minneapolis secures public financing for redeveloping Bassett Creek Valley by using 5<sup>th</sup> Ward racial disparities but then places these publicly owned lands – and the benefits of their redevelopment - within Ward 7. The decision by the Redistricting Group to alter the map was population neutral, however structurally undermines the voting power of a racially diverse community, eliminating their ability to secure representation of lands contiguous to their community. Be it further noted the land in question is only accessible through the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward.

The Redistricting Group action on March 22<sup>nd</sup> further consolidates control of important public assets and opportunity within Ward 7 an affluent community at the expense of a racially diverse and low-income Ward 5. There have been concerns raised regarding the health and economic viability of the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward. It is to the benefit of the entire city that contiguous opportunity areas that will provide needed housing and jobs be included in the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward.

We must deliberately break from past decision-making practices that contributed to the marginalization, isolation and disinvestment of the Near North area. Attached are two maps, one from 1935 and the other a color overlay of the 1935 map showing modern day neighborhood boundaries and location of highways. These two

maps illustrate what occurs when the well-being of people of color and low-income communities are not considered in decision-making processes.

The Harrison Neighborhood Association reiterates its previous request to: 1) Keep Harrison Whole! and 2) Keep Harrison in the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward! Harrison residents are deeply concerned about their vote being diluted and their ability to secure representation of their choice undermined.

This has been a long and complicated process. Substantial progress has been made to this point. It is important that we not backslide and accept business as usual. Your continued consideration of the significant implications of these decisions is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully,

Larry Hiscock Director/Lead Organizer

Larry Hiscock Director/Lead Organizer 612-374-4849

I GoodSearch and GoodShop for the Harrison Neighborhood Association.

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March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012

c/o City Clerks Office Room 304 City Hall 350 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street Minneapolis, MN 55415

### Redistricting Group Members:

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We must deliberately break from past decision-making practices that contributed to the marginalization, isolation and disinvestment of the Near North area. Attached are two maps, one from 1935 and the other a color overlay of the 1935 map showing modern day neighborhood boundaries and location of highways. These two maps illustrate what

occurs when the well-being of people of color and low-income communities are not considered in decision-making processes.

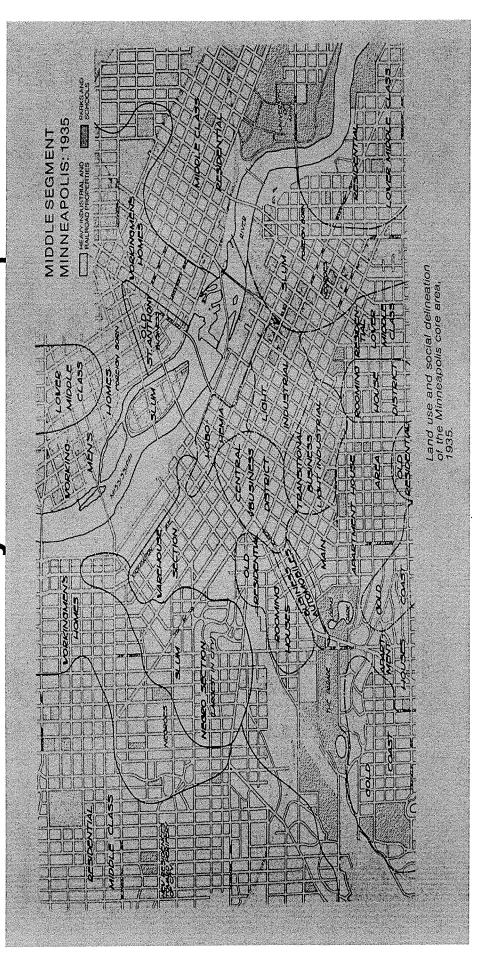
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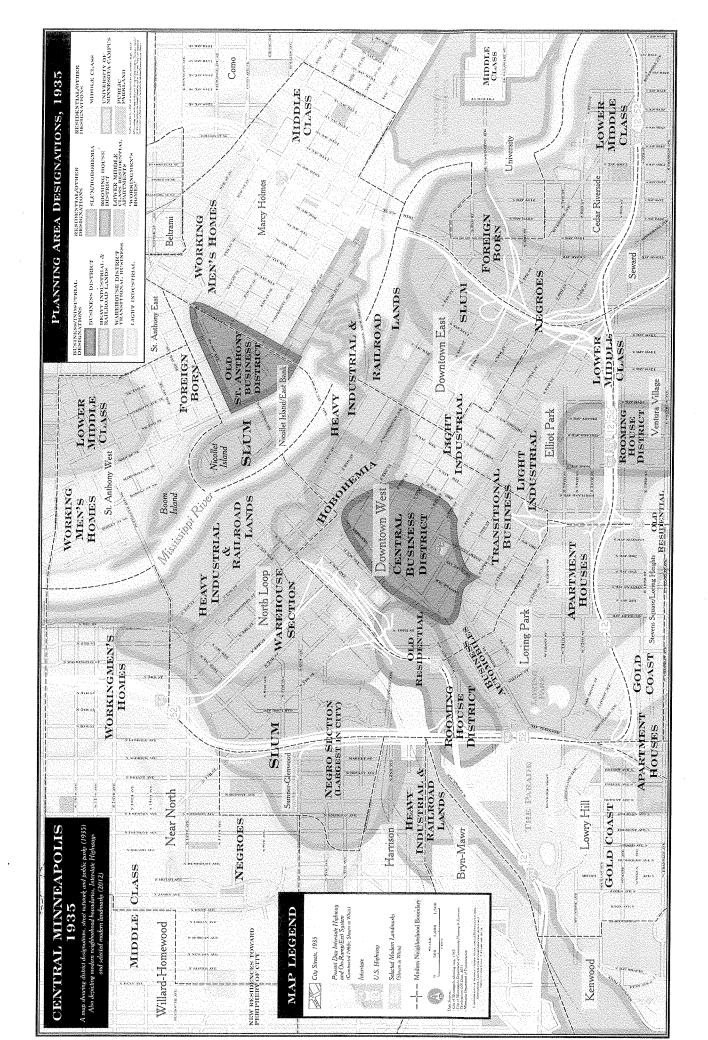
This has been a long and complicated process. Substantial progress has been made to this point. It is important that we not backslide and accept business as usual. Your continued consideration of the significant implications of these decisions is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully,

Director/Lead Organizer

# The History of Minneapolis





From: Sent: Hiscock, Larry <a href="mailto:larry@hnampls.org">larry@hnampls.org</a> Friday, March 23, 2012 12:20 PM

To:

Hiscock, Larry; 'barry@bfclegg.com'; 'jaybadheartbull@me.com'; 'cohendan1@msn.com'; 'colex044@comcast.net'; 'corbinconnell@gmail.com'; 'xmargedolan@comcast.net'; 'todd.ferrara@standardheating.com'; 'jbgarcia3@aol.com'; 'djheinle@cmarch.com';

'invisionit@msn.com'; 'kozaknsa@mm.com'; 'barrylaz@gmail.com'; 'blickness@yahoo.com'; 'jkmassey@earthlink.net'; 'singdancesavetheworld@gmail.com'; 'jahp2691@yahoo.com';

'srichardson7@comcast.net'; 'arubenstein@schaeferlaw.com';

'jfschartercomm@comcast.net'; 'gthaden@gmail.com'; 'adosh.unni@gmail.com';

Redistricting2012

Subject:

FW: Redistricting

See comment below.

Larry Hiscock Director/Lead Organizer 612-374-4849

I GoodSearch and GoodShop for the Harrison Neighborhood Association.

Raise money for Harrison Neighborhood Association just by searching the Internet with GoodSearch.com (powered by Yahoo), or shopping online with GoodShop.com. Simply go to <a href="http://www.goodsearch.com/toolbar/harrison-neighborhood-association-hna">http://www.goodsearch.com/toolbar/harrison-neighborhood-association-hna</a> and add us to your toolbar.

From: Fred and Pamela [mailto:fppeters@yahoo.com]

**Sent:** Friday, March 23, 2012 12:13 PM

**To:** Hiscock, Larry **Subject:** Redistricting

Dear Members of the Redistricting Group,

I am on the HNA Board as VP and a very concerned homeowner in Harrison. I am concerned over the way our neighborhood seems to be passed over time and time again for near by neighborhoods who are wealthier and therefor have more influence over processes that are directly influencing our neighborhood and ward 5. Please consider this in your decisions, it's time for the city of Minneapolis to step up and do things that are in everyones best interest not just those that have money, that is supposed to be the role of government, to keep things fair, I am enclosing our HNA statement below Pamela

### Redistricting Group Members:

The Harrison Neighborhood Association Board of Directors voted to support the Ward 5 Boundaries proposed in the March 7<sup>th</sup> Redistricting Group Meeting. Thank you for responding to concerns raised by residents that would have been negatively impacted by ward lines dividing the community. The proposed redistricting map addresses most of the concerns raised by Harrison residents.

The March 7<sup>th</sup> Ward Maps achieve the following:

1. **Keeps Harrison Whole!** Maintaining the voting power of the community to achieve representation was a major concern of residents. Harrison is a very small and geographically and demographically isolated neighborhood. Splitting the neighborhood would have diluted the voting power of the neighborhood residents to secure representation of their choice. Additionally, it would be very difficult for the community to gain

adequate attention from either Ward to address core neighborhood issues around safety, employment and housing.

- 2. **Keeps Harrison in Ward 5!** Harrison residents raised concerns about their voting power being diluted undermining their ability to have a fair opportunity to elect a representative of choice and ensure that issues affecting them would be addressed. Federal Law requires that racial and language minorities have a fair opportunity to elect representatives of their choice. Harrison is demographically more similar to the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward. Remaining in 5<sup>th</sup> Ward allows residents the opportunity to elect a representative of their choice that will address community priorities. Harrison is radically different demographically and economically when compared to the 7<sup>th</sup> Ward. Harrison voters would lose the opportunity to elect a representative of their choice and secure representation on issues critical to their lives.
- 3. **Protects Northside Representation of Northside Opportunity!** Previous maps showing Harrison split down Glenwood Avenue removed the Bassett Creek Valley from Ward 5. This would have violated the Charter Commission principle of keeping contiguous land together. Harrison residents agree with the principle that contiguous land with similar zoning should be in the same Ward. The March 7<sup>th</sup> Draft Ward Map is a significant improvement returning the Harrison business community back to the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward. It also includes the contiguous land of the Minneapolis Impound Lot that is only accessible through Harrison and North Minneapolis. The Ward 5 Boundary should be extended further South for ethical reasons, but we understand and accept that the Redistricting Group's proposal is consistent with the legislative district line, which is a reasonable limitation. The March 7<sup>th</sup> Map is a significant and fair improvement for the following reasons:
- Public funding for the area linked to the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward. City of Minneapolis funding requests must demonstrate need. North Minneapolis homicide rates have been used in grants along with economic disparities to secure predevelopment dollars in Bassett Creek Valley. Linking future employment with the North Minneapolis is also referenced as a reason. Based on the grants we have read, there has been no reference to Bryn Mawr demographics or Ward 7 demographics.
- b. **The current maps connect opportunity to representation**. Ward 5 disparities are used to secure public financing, but current Ward lines deny 5<sup>th</sup> Ward voters direct and fair representation on lands contiguous to their ward.
  - The current map does not violate the intent of the neighborhood boundary principle. The purpose of aligning Ward lines with neighborhood boundaries is to avoid splitting communities, diluting voting capacity, and/or undermining community cohesion. Connecting Northside opportunity to Northside representation has no impact on the voting capacity, residential boundaries or social cohesion of any neighborhood in 7<sup>th</sup> Ward.

The Harrison Neighborhood Association wants to thank everyone that has participated on the Redistricting Group. This has been a long and complicated process. Your commitment of time and thought is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully, Pamela Peters

Pamela and Fred Peters F&P Remodeling by Design www.fpremodeling.com fpremodeling.com/blog

612 889 2730

From: Sent:

Russ Adams <russ@metrostability.org> Friday, March 23, 2012 12:29 PM

To:

barry@bfclegg.com; jaybadheartbull@me.com; cohendan1@msn.com; colex044

@comcast.net; corbinconnell@gmail.com; xmargedolan@comcast.net;

todd.ferrara@standardheating.com; jbgarcia3@aol.com; djheinle@cmarch.com;

invisionit@msn.com; kozaknsa@mm.com; barrylaz@gmail.com; blickness@yahoo.com; jkmassey@earthlink.net; singdancesavetheworld@gmail.com; jahp2691@yahoo.com; srichardson7@comcast.net; arubenstein@schaeferlaw.com; jfschartercomm@comcast.net;

gthaden@gmail.com; adosh.unni@gmail.com; Redistricting2012; Larry Hiscock

Subject:

Comments on Minneapolis Redistricting Maps - Ward 5

March 23, 2012

c/o City Clerks Office

Room 304 City Hall

350 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street

Minneapolis, MN 55415

Redistricting Group Members:

I am writing to support the Ward 5 Boundaries proposed in the March 7<sup>th</sup> Redistricting Group Meeting. Thank you for responding to concerns raised by residents that would have been negatively impacted by ward lines dividing the community. The proposed redistricting map addresses most of the concerns raised by Harrison residents.

The March 7<sup>th</sup> Ward Maps achieves the following:

- 1. **Keeps Harrison whole:** Harrison is small geographically and a demographically isolated neighborhood. Splitting the neighborhood would dilute the representation of the neighborhood at the city council.
- 2. **Keeps Harrison in Ward 5:** Federal Law requires that racial and language minorities have a fair opportunity to elect representatives of their choice. Harrison is demographically more similar to the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward. Remaining in 5<sup>th</sup> Ward allows residents the opportunity to elect a representative of their choice that will address community priorities. Harrison is radically different demographically and economically when compared to the 7<sup>th</sup> Ward. If included in Ward 7, Harrison voters would lose the

opportunity to elect a representative of their choice and secure representation on issues critical to their lives.

3. **Protects Northside Representation of Northside Opportunity:** Previous redistricting maps show Harrison split down Glenwood Avenue and removed the Bassett Creek Valley from Ward 5. This would have violated the Charter Commission principle of keeping contiguous land together. Harrison residents agree with the principle that contiguous land with similar zoning should be in the same Ward. The March 7<sup>th</sup> Draft Ward Map is a significant improvement returning the Harrison business community back to the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward. It also includes the contiguous land of the Minneapolis Impound Lot that is only accessible through Harrison and North Minneapolis.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

R. adm

### **Russ Adams**

Alliance for Metropolitan Stability

Suite 200

2525 E. Franklin Ave.

Minneapolis, MN 55406

(w) <u>612-332-4471</u>

(c) <u>612-964-1647</u>

russ@metrostability.org

www.metrostability.org

Connecting People, Places and Issues

From:

Central Area Neighborhood Development Organization CANDO <mplscando@gmail.com>

Sent:

Friday, March 23, 2012 1:38 PM

To:

Redistricting2012

Cc:

Sandra Richardson; Glidden, Elizabeth A.

Subject:

Letter from CANDO Board

Attachments:

redistricting.doc

### Redistricting 2012:

I have attached a letter from the CANDO board, which represents the Central Neighborhood in south Minneapolis, in regard to the new redistricting map.

Thank you for giving it your close attention.

Kristi Johnson Executive Director CANDO 612-824-1333

**NEW** email addresses at the Central Neighborhood!

Please contact me at my new email: kristi@thecentralneighborhood.com



March 23, 2012

City of Minneapolis City Clerk's Office - Redistricting 350 S 5th St Rm 1B Minneapolis, MN 55415

City Clerk:

The CANDO board of directors voted at their last meeting, March 15, 2012, to request that the Central Neighborhood remain in the 8<sup>th</sup> Ward, where it has been for over 40 years.

Moving Central into a redrawn Ward 9 represents an extreme boundary and community change.

Central, and Bryant and Bancroft to the south and south east are known for being strong, middle-class, African American communities, with strong attachment to local organizations and institutions like Sabathani, the Urban League, *The Spokesman Recorder* newspaper, Pillsbury House and Green Central Park and School. The new map breaks up this close-knit, historic, community of interest.

CANDO has been fortunate to be able to work within a single ward for administering programs like street scape improvements and façade grants that extend across 38<sup>th</sup> into Bryant and Bancroft and across Chicago into Powderhorn neighborhoods.

These communities are identified together and work together.

In addition, the newly-drawn Ward 9 appears to spread its council person and resources extremely thinly. It almost appears as though the map is designed to place the higher crime rate areas of south Minneapolis into a single Ward. It is the board's opinion that that Central would not be as well-served in this redrawn map as it has been as part of the 8<sup>th</sup> Ward.

Sincerely,

Kristi Johnson Executive Director CANDO 612-824-1333

From:

verlena matey-keke <vmatey2001@yahoo.com>

Sent:

Friday, March 23, 2012 1:39 PM

To:

Redistricting2012

Subject:

Follow up comments regarding proposed redistricting

Attachments:

Comments re proposed redistricting docx

### Dear Commissioners,

This memo is a folowup to the "comments regarding proposed redistricting" memo from yesterday (see atachment). After giving it more thought, it occurred to me that many of those in the decision making position on the Commission may not know the history of the struggle that went into the building of the African American institutions on the South Side of Minneapolis any more than they may know about the history of the Lee's family's homestead at 4601 Columbus Avenue, or the homestead of Michele Norris' family featured in "The Grace of Silence".

Even though the results are the same, I would like to give all of the Commissioners the benefit of the doubt.

Again, I respectfully request any help which may be forthcoming to stave what would undoubtedly be a catastrophe for the African American community. I thank you in advance for your kind consideration.

Re: My comments regarding the Proposed Redistricting

My name is Verlena Matey-Keke. I live at 4038 Third Avenue South and have lived here since 1970.

I am sending this message to the Redistricting Commission because I feel compelled to express my strong objection to the separating of the 8<sup>th</sup> Ward from that part of the 9th Ward where African American Institutions are located in the Central neighborhood. I have no objections to any other part of the proposed redistricting.

At the public hearing held on Tue. March 20, I couldn't help but wonder if those with decision making authority noted that every African American that spoke, as well as some with other backgrounds, had objections to separating of the two Wards, and yet had no objections to any other part of the proposal.

I call your attention to the literature I picked up at the public hearing last evening, which says in part something about "cracking", in other words, "spreading minorities among so many districts that their voting power is diluted". It also says "it doesn't matter whether the effects are intentional or not". I ask that you consider those principles as you do a final draft of the redistricting map.

I see our city with the widest school achievement gap, the highest unemployment rate, the highest rate of incarnation for African Americans in the country, and I can tell you that part of the reason is the accumulative disingenuous acts that have produced the afore mentioned results.

From:

Chris Wogaman <chris.wogaman@gmail.com>

Sent:

Friday, March 23, 2012 2:12 PM

To: Subject:

Redistricting2012 Redistricting Ward 10

### Dear Charter Commission:

I'm wondering what the rationale is for placing my part of Ward 10 in Ward 7 and linking it with downtown, and separating downtown into 2 wards? It does not make any sense to me that Hennepin Ave. would be a dividing line of wards in Uptown from a business standpoint--this part of Hennepin seems to me to function as a unit. And, frankly, I don't want the interests of my neighborhood and the interests of downtown to be represented by the same person on the City Council.

Sincerely,

Chris Wogaman 2880 James Ave. S.

From:

Salvador Miranda <miranda@oaproject.org>

Sent:

Friday, March 23, 2012 2:28 PM

To: Cc: Redistricting2012 Marlene Rojas We All Win proposal

Subject: Attachments:

2012 Support We all Win MIFN 2012-1-1.doc

For your consideration - Support We All Win proposal

Salvador Miranda
Associate Director and Director of Training
Organizing Apprenticeship Project
miranda@oaproject.org
612-746-4224
Follow us on Twitter
Find us on Facebook

# Dear Redistricting Group:

As a board member of the Latino Economic Development Center, I am writing to you to ask for your support in keeping our Latino south Minneapolis neighborhoods together as depicted in the "We All Win" map in this link:

http://localdistrictbuilder.drawminnesota.org/districtmapping/plan/567/view/

Our community of interest is tied together by specific linguistic, cultural, and life experiences that must be kept together in order to help create a minority opportunity ward for the Latino community. "We All Win" is a fair, balanced, and needed approach to support the forward-looking planning of our city's democracy and social vibrancy which not only creates a minority opportunity ward for Latinos – it also creates a minority opportunity ward in three other wards for the African American, Native American, and Somali community.

In your final deliberations, we ask that you please keep Midtown Phillips, East Phillips, Powderhorn, Central, and parts of Corcoran and Standish together in order to establish a 34.72% Latino voting age population – helping Latinos the ability to represent their specific interests today and 10 years from now.

Your decision on a final map will impact the lives of well over 40,000 Latino families and children who have invested in making Minneapolis a richer and healthier city. We know you will make your deliberations with deep thought and hope you can draw the lines in a way that will empower, and not divide, the Latino community.

Sincerely,

Salvador Miranda Board member Latino Economic Development Center 1516 E. Lake Street, Suite 201 Minneapolis, MN 55407

From:

Sindiswa Georgiades <sindiswageorgiadesconsulting@gmail.com>

Sent:

Friday, March 23, 2012 3:27 PM

To:

Redistricting2012

Subject:

**Redistricting Map Comments** 

Hello,

My name is Sindiswa Georgiades and I am a homeowner at 3845 2nd avenue south. I feel that the current redistricting map reeks of racism and separate but equal treatment. I disagree with the idea of "oppertunity" wards that are established based on ethnicity rather than population. In the brochure "Understanding Redistricting in Minneapolis" it states that it is federal law to avoid packing and cracking. I feel that this new map does exactly that; packing by pushing wards that are based on the geographic location of minorities and not general population. Cracking, by putting 1-2 neighborhoods in the newly drawn wards which limits people like myself in garnering support for our(my neighborhood) interests politically. In addition, breaking up wards 8,2,6 will have devastating impacts on the community. I suggest that the final ward map be drawn with some level of consistency as it relates to the current ward map and consideration for creating more uniformity in the wards that will be impacted the most.

Sindiswa Georgiades SG Consulting (612)423-8779

"A generous heart, kind speech, and a life of service and compassion are the things which renew humanity."-Gautama Siddharta

From:

David Fields <a href="mailto:class">davidfields@elliotpark.org</a>

Sent:

Friday, March 23, 2012 3:59 PM

To:

Redistricting2012

Cc:

Menshek, Peggy Y; Goodman, Lisa R.

Subject:

Elliot Park Neighborhood

Redistricting Group and Charter Commission Members:

The proposed placement of Elliot Park Neighborhood entirely within the boundaries of Ward 6 is ill-advised and counterproductive. Elliot Park Neighborhood is one of the oldest <u>Downtown</u> neighborhoods of Minneapolis; its history and relationships have been formed by its identification with the downtown communities and the Central Business District.

What conceivable logic is there to exiling the entire neighborhood to a Ward consisted of neighborhoods with which Elliot Park has little in common? The massive freeway trenches that separate Elliot Park Neighborhood to the south and east have served as more than just physical barriers to the neighborhoods on the other side. The issues, agendas, affinities Elliot Park Neighborhood has built over the decades are with owntown and its neighborhoods, Loring Park, Downtown West and Downtown East, and North Loop. The proposed redistricting appears to be a shameless gerrymandering of Ward boundaries to serve the interests only of particular special interest populations. Ironically, Elliot Park is probably the most diverse of Minneapolis neighborhoods already, with a truly representative balance of ethnic, racial and income demographics. Because of this, Elliot Park Neighborhood makes a unique contribution of diversity to what otherwise is a mostly homogenous downtown population.

True, Elliot Park Neighborhood will remain intact. But it is obvious that the interests and initiatives of the neighborhood organization, which EPNI has promoted over the years as a member of the Minneapolis downtown community of neighborhoods, will be largely marginalized considering the characters and agendas of the other proposed Ward 6 neighborhoods.

In the previously proposed redistricting maps at least a major sector of Elliot Park Neighborhood was retained in Ward 7, as arbitrarily and politically-motivated as the division lines drawn through our community were. The latest proposed map is way out of line with reality or fairness.

Elliot Park Neighborhood, Inc. urges the Charter Commission to send the Ward redistricting for Elliot Park Neighborhood back to the work table in hopes of creating a far more equitable, practical and effective boundary for Elliot Park that will keep at least some of its constituency within the representation Ward Seven. Respectfully,

### David Fields

Community Development Coordinator Elliot Park Neighborhood, Inc. 719 South 10<sup>th</sup> Street Minneapolis, MN 55404 612-335-5846 x13 davidfields@elliotpark.org

From:

Jeremy Brezovan <jeremy\_brezovan@hotmail.com>

Sent:

Friday, March 23, 2012 4:35 PM

To:

Redistricting2012

Subject:

2012 Minneapolis council ward map

Hello! I'm a current resident of Ward 9--I live on Chicago and Lake. I've seen the new proposed map, and I don't understand why we're apparently being placed in the new Ward 6. I think we have tighter ties to our Powderhorn and Midtown/East Lake neighbors (being the "Midtown Exchange" and all) than we do to Ventura Village, Elliot Park and Cedar/Riverside. Wouldn't it make more sense to shift the long western "leg" of Ward 6 (the part that stretches into Philips West) into Ward 9, and shift more of East Philips into Ward 6?

Thanks,

Jeremy Brezovan

From:

David Fields <a href="mailto:cdavidfields@elliotpark.org">cdavidfields@elliotpark.org</a>

Sent:

Friday, March 23, 2012 4:36 PM

To: Cc: Redistricting2012

Menshek, Peggy Y; Goodman, Lisa R.

Subject:

FW: Elliot Park Neighborhood

The email statement below supersedes the previous.

### **David Fields**

**Community Development Coordinator** Elliot Park Neighborhood, Inc. 719 South 10<sup>th</sup> Street Minneapolis, MN 55404 612-335-5846 x13 davidfields@elliotpark.org

From: David Fields [mailto:davidfields@elliotpark.org]

**Sent:** Friday, March 23, 2012 3:59 PM To: 'Redistricting2012@minneapolismn.gov'

Cc: 'peggy.menshek@minneapolismn.gov'; Lisa.Goodman@minneapolismn.gov

Subject: Elliot Park Neighborhood

Redistricting Group and Charter Commission Members:

The proposed placement of Elliot Park Neighborhood entirely within the boundaries of Ward 6 is ill-advised and counterproductive. Elliot Park Neighborhood is one of the oldest **Downtown** neighborhoods of Minneapolis; its history and relationships have been formed by its identification with the downtown communities and the Central Business District.

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Elliot Park Neighborhood, Inc. urges the Charter Commission to send the Ward redistricting for Elliot Park Neighborhood back to the work table in hopes of creating a far more equitable, practical and effective boundary for Elliot Park that will keep at least some of its constituency within the representation Ward Seven. Respectfully,

# **David Fields**

Community Development Coordinator Elliot Park Neighborhood, Inc. 719 South 10<sup>th</sup> Street Minneapolis, MN 55404 612-335-5846 x13 davidfields@elliotpark.org

From:

Dan McConnell <ibewdan@gmail.com>

Sent:

Saturday, March 24, 2012 6:45 AM

To:

Redistricting2012

Subject:

Longfellow in the 2nd ward?

I live at 3213 41st Ave S. I cannot believe you are considering putting the cooper neighborhood into the 2nd ward. Cooper has always been in the 9th or 12th ward and the geography of our city make us much more connected to the other greater longfellow neighborhoods to the south then we are to areas like prospect park and SE Minneapolis.

Please put us back where we belong.

Dan McConnell

From:

Thora Reynolds <frigga25@yahoo.com>

Sent:

Saturday, March 24, 2012 8:47 AM

To:

Menshek, Peggy Y

Subject:

My comments on redistricting

I was not able to make it to the public hearings on redistricting due to my work schedule.

I oppose the proposed boundaries of the new Ward 6. I am a resident of Ventura Village, and have formerly lived in Seward, Longfellow and Phillips. My family has lived in South Minneapolis since 1885.

Specifically, I would like to see ALL of Seward Neighborhood left in ward 6, and all of Elliot Park. I think politically dividing so many of Minneapolis' traditional neighborhoods is a bad idea. Dividing neighborhoods along income and racial lines to create voting blocks is unwise, divisive and possibly unconstitutional. (It seems like gerrymandering.) Instead of encouraging neighborhoods to work as a whole for the good of all, it encourages people to feel like parts of the neighborhood are 'not my problem'.

Furthermore, it creates a 6th ward that is primarily people of color who are living in poverty. I frankly doubt that this will give these residents more power in city government. Dividing 3 old traditional neighborhoods to do this is wrong.

Thank you for listening to my input.

Sincerely,

Thora Reynolds

From:

William G. Kingsbury <a href="mailto:kingsbury">kingsbury</a> <a href="mailto:

Sent:

Sunday, March 25, 2012 5:31 PM

To:

Redistricting2012

Subject:

Wards 2, 6 and 9 - how about We All Win?

Attachments:

Native-Latino-Somali Opportunity map.pdf

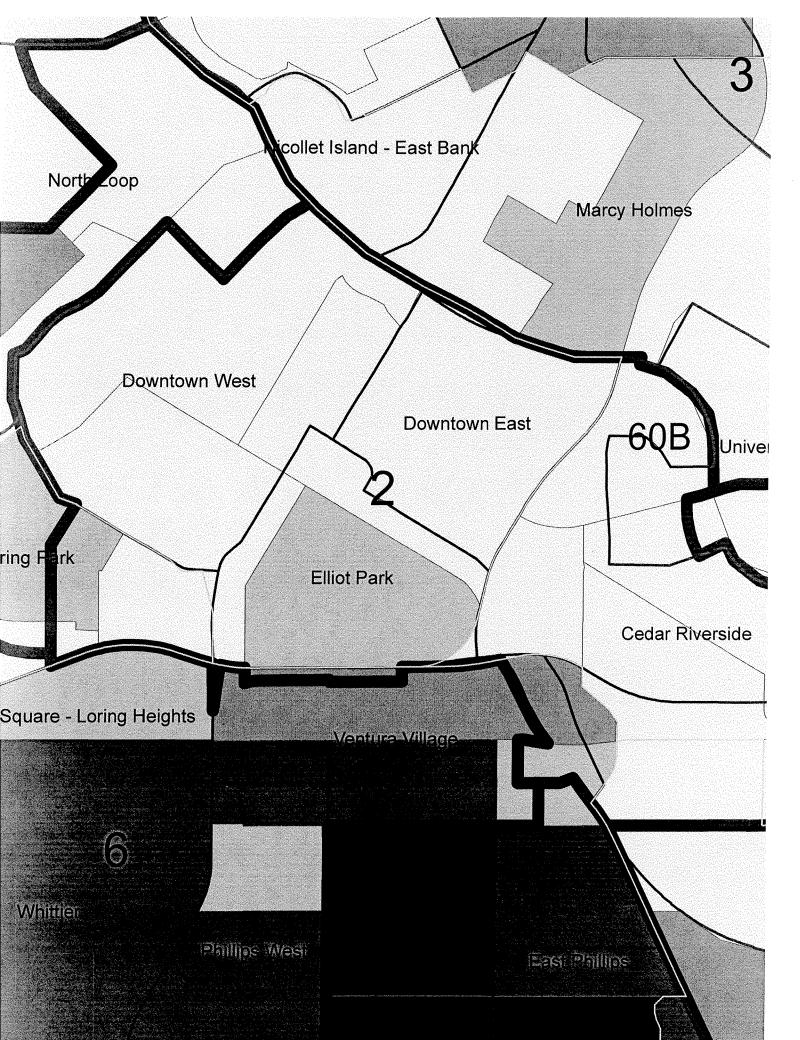
Dear Redistricting Group and Charter Commission,

Thank you for your work on the difficult redistricting project, I appreciate your time and efforts.

I am concerned about what I have seen of the proposed Map for Wards 2, 6 and 9. I live in Ward 6 and am especially concerned with the proposal I saw at the public hearing March 20 that would pack so many \_different\_ minority groups into Ward 6 and 9. I am concerned that the result of this would be a limited opportunity for people of color to have representation on the Council. I suggest something much more along the lines of the attached "We All Win" map that provides 4 minority-opportunity wards. I am especially concerned that the opportunity for a Native American voice on the council would be lost under the map I saw at the hearing. Please consider the "We All Win" map.

Best regards,

Bill Kingsbury Ventura Village 1310 E 19<sup>th</sup> Street



From:

pmcclain653@gmail.com

Sent:

Sunday, March 25, 2012 7:40 PM

To: Subject:

Redistricting2012 Redistricting ward 5

I live in the Harrison Neighborhood...a place full of minorities and disparity..I am asking you to keep our neighborhood whole. Please do not split Glenwood ave. It is very unfair..please do the right thing. I was also very happy that our ward was going to include the impound lot. We deserve a fair chance..we have worked exceptionally hard to improve our neighborhood. Thank you for doing what is just. Pamela McClain Ward 5.

From: Sent:

Garth Dietrich <gddietrich@gmail.com>

Sunday, March 25, 2012 11:32 PM

Cc:

Redistricting2012

Subject:

Re: Current editable map

For the record I have given Mr Hoffman everything he has asked for and then some. If he does not have the expertise to utilize the information in the format he requested I can not help with that. I have been harrassed with close to a dozen emails in the last 36 hours from him, and I have done my best to get him the information to him as quickly as I was able. A few minutes ago (about 11:15 PM I once again emailed all the information to he and Mike.

Sincerely

Garth Dietrich

On Sun, Mar 25, 2012 at 10:57 PM, Mark Hoffman < hoffm402@umn.edu> wrote: Dear Redistricting Group,

First, thanks to all of you for your very hard work. I am forwarding an email I sent to Garth Dietrich in an effort to obtain an editable version of your most recent map proposal (March 23rd). Garth suggested that he would send the map to Mike Dean at Common Cause on Saturday so Mike could load it into his publicly accessible Common Cause mapmaking program. We've yet to receive the necessary files from Garth. We need these files to suggest crucial changes and improvements to your most recent proposal. We have been working non-stop with members of communities to negotiate settlements on ward lines, but there's no way, aside from drawing entirely new maps, to incorporate these settlements into a proposal without access to an editable version of your current map. Nor is there any way to compare Ward statistics from new maps to statistics in manipulated forms of the official March 23rd map. If anyone has access to these files and can send them to us, we'd greatly appreciate it. We would would work through the night to help you incorporate input from our communities and neighborhoods. We want to help. Please give us a chance.

Thank you for your support and all your hard work throughout this difficult, democratic process.

Sincerely, Mark Hoffman 3648 Elliot Ave. S. Minneapolis, MN 55407

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Mark Hoffman < hoffm402@umn.edu>

Date: Sun, Mar 25, 2012 at 9:36 PM

Subject: Re: maps

To: Mike Dean - Common Cause MN <mdean@commoncause.org>, Garth

### Dietrich <gddietrich@gmail.com>

Garth, please send Mike the appropriate files, the files he asked for on Friday and that you said you'd send on Saturday. It's now Sunday night. If we get an editable map we could still work on it overnight and get something to the commission in the morning. Commissioners are now telling us that our proposals depart too radically from the current map. We don't think this is true, but we can't work from the current map because we don't have access to it in an editable form. The shape file you sent me is helpful, but it hardly gives us the ability to make improvements by manipulating wards and running numbers. Mike says you know the files he needs, that you just need to send them, and that you said you would do so.

If we don't get this map, it must be documented in the public record that the public could not participate adequately in the final stages of this process because we did not have access to the necessary information.

On Sun, Mar 25, 2012 at 8:56 PM, Mike Dean - Common Cause MN

Mark Hoffman 3648 Elliot Ave. S. Minneapolis, MN 55407

>> Mark

```
<mdean@commoncause.org> wrote:
> I still have not received the maps from Garth.
>
    Mike Dean
> Common Cause Minnesota
> 612-770-6908
>
    mdean@commoncause.org
> Web site - http://www.commoncause.org/mn
>
> On Sun, Mar 25, 2012 at 8:55 PM, Mark Hoffman < hoffm402@umn.edu> wrote:
>> Hi Mike and Garth,
>>
> How did the file exchange go? Are the editable maps up somewhere?
>>
```